GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:787
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2001
TRANS ASIAN RAILWAY PROJECT
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed Trans Asian Rail link project providing a seamless journey across Asia suffered a set back due to recent developments in Asia and America;

(b) the names of the countries proposed to be covered by the proposed project;

(c) whether all these countries are also fully involved in the implementation of the project; and

(d) the estimated cost of the project and the amount to be shared by each country and the time schedule fixed for its completion?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a) to (d): The Trans Asian Railway Project which envisages three rail-land bridges connecting Europe to China/South East Asia is still at a conceptual stage. The southern corridor of the proposed Trans Asian Railway passes through Bulgaria, Turkey, Iran, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Myanmar, and China/Thailand - Cambodia/Malaysia and Singapore.

The efforts of establishing this Railway link Corridor are being coordinated under the aegis of both UIC (International Union of Railways) and UN-ESCAP (United Nations - Economic and Social Commission for the Asia and the Pacific). The deliberations on all issues including cost and time schedule, among the member countries are at a very nascent stage. Ministry of Commerce is the nodal agency for coordinating the various efforts on behalf of Government of India.